

MAKE FRESH START ON MOBILIZATION.—Washington.—President Truman makes a fresh start on the new defense mobilization program in meeting with members of United Labor Policy Committee in Cabinet Room of White House. Labor accepted his invitation to serve on a new top level National Advisory Board on Defense Mobilization. Mr. Truman agreed to meet with the board of labor, industry, agriculture and public members at least once a month. United Labor said the move was the first step toward resolving other grievances against the Big Business mobilization operating since the Korean war began. In the picture are:

Joseph Potosky (CIO) Joseph Curran (CIO) Albert Goldberg (CIO) Emil Rieve (CIO) Elmer Walker (AFL) Dan W. Tracy (AFL) George Meany (AFL) L. S. Buckmaster (CIO) George W. C. Birtwright (AFL) CIO President Philip Murray President Truman AFL President William Green

Report Backs AFL Fight on 'Wetbacks'

Washington.—An official U. S. government commission confirmed all charges made by the AFL against government agencies and big business farm operators for the economic chaos caused by illegal Mexican "wetback" agriculture workers in the Southwest.

President Truman's Commission on Migratory Labor told President Truman in an 80,000-word report that the industrialization of agriculture had brought with it all the social evils that accompanied the earlier industrial revolution.

The commission was created last autumn at the request of the American Federation of Labor and the National Farm Labor Union. It conducted hearings in many sections of the country.

Its report appeared while Congress had pending a bill which would perpetuate all the evils of the present system. There was no indication whether the bills backed by Sen. Alender of Louisiana and Rep. W. H. Poage of Texas would be revised to conform with recommendations of the President's commission.

Members of the commission are Chairman Maurice T. Van Hecke, University of North Carolina law professor; Nobel Clark, University of Wisconsin agriculture instructor; William M. Leiserson, former chairman National Mediation Board; National Labor Relations Board; the Most Rev. Robert J. Casey, archbishop of San Antonio, and Peter H. Odegaard, University of California political science professor.

The commission recommended establishment of a permanent Federal Committee on Migratory Farm Labor to coordinate a public program of help for migrant farm workers.

Other specific recommendations included extension of the minimum wage, unemployment compensation, social security, and labor-management relations acts to cover these workers.

Wage Board Delays West Coast Raises

San Francisco.—American Federation of Labor unions in California negotiated actual and potential wage gains averaging 131 cents per hour for an estimated 25,000 workers during February.

The California State Federation of Labor said that many of the gains are dependent upon the Federal Labor Board approval, however. The WSP is imperative since industry and public members forced labor members out last Feb. 16 by adopting an unfair formula.

Profits Up 70%, Wages Limited

Washington.—First estimates of corporation earnings for the first quarter of 1951 are expected to show profits running almost 70 percent above January-March 1950.

This is a 70 percent increase in profits—after taxes.

Prices are more than 10 percent above the pre-Korean level, food prices alone being up 15 percent.

It's a Big Business mobilization.

Wilson Forced To Fire Adviser

Washington.—The resignation of Fred Sears, Jr., as top adviser on mining matters in the mobilization setup was disclosed amid congressional demands that he quit or be fired.

Charles E. Wilson, defense mobilization adviser the House Subcommittee on Mines and Mining that Mr. Sears "has given up his position" as Mr. Wilson's assistant.

Representative Engle (Democrat) of California said Mr. Sears, president of the Numont Mining Corp. of New York, told the Senate Interior Committee in February that "any type of subsidy for the mining industry is objectionable" and that if he had his way he would stop exploration and development loans.

At the same time, Mr. Engle said the Defense Minerals Administration was completing a contract with San Manuel Copper Co., a subsidiary of Macqua Copper Co., which is owned by Numont, to guarantee a market for copper to be produced in Arizona.

Mr. Wilson later denied that Mr. Sears quit under fire.

The United Labor Policy Committee charged that Mr. Wilson's office was completing a contract with San Manuel Copper Co., a subsidiary of Macqua Copper Co., which is owned by Numont, to guarantee a market for copper to be produced in Arizona.

Plan Inquiry into NPA's Favoritism For Big Business

White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.—The Big Business mobilization operated by Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson faces a second congressional inquiry.

Rep. Emanuel Celler said that a House Judiciary subcommittee would begin "very soon" an investigation of the activities of men serving without compensation on industry advisory committees of mobilization agencies.

Mr. Celler said 30 such consultants for the National Production Authority were employed regularly by companies among the hundred largest corporations in the nation.

In announcing the congressional inquiry here, he suggested the nation's defense agencies are being advised by committees loaded in favor of Big Business.

He said some members of these committees, serving without pay, are "so-called sales managers" for their companies.

Chief chairman of the House Judiciary committee, disclosed plans for the inquiry at the final session of the Conference on Economic Mobilization.

A joint congressional "watchdog" committee under Sen. Burton Maybank is investigating the \$3 billion tax exemptions granted without investigation by the National Production Authority to Big Business firms.

Leaders of the United Labor Policy Committee have charged that the orders issued by Mr. Wilson, Economic Stabilization Administrator Eric Johnston, the C. I. of Price Administration, National Production Authority have been by Big Business for the benefit of Big Business.

Labor spokesmen said that when businessmen come to ask favors of the production authority or price stabilization office they talk across the desk to businessmen like themselves, often from the same company. There is no labor, consumer, farmer or any other interest represented when businessmen make these decisions for business.

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

Bronxville, N. Y.—The annual award of 3 scholarships for members of the American labor movement, to study at Runkin College, Oxford, England, will be made by the National Education Association.

Applications should be sent to the Committee on Runkin College Labor awards, Institute of International Education, 2 West 45th St., New York City 19, by May 1.

Truman Board Gets Labor's Proposals

Mink Coat vs. \$3 Billion

Washington.—When an unknown White House stenographer was disclosed to have accepted a \$9,500 mink coat from a lawyer seeking help in obtaining a loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corp., the daily newspapers front-paged the story for days.

When another Congressional committee headed by Sen. Burton E. Maybank uncovered the fact that the National Production Authority under William H. Harrison, president, International Telephone & Telegraph Co., and under the overall supervision of Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson, had granted \$3 billion of public money in tax amortization to Big Business companies without checking on the requests and in spite of adverse recommendations, the daily newspapers buried the story.

Is this fair? Is it moral?

The board set April 12 for its first meeting on the specific problem of reconstituting the Wage Stabilization Board. Industry and public members forced labor members off this board and added their own wage formula. Industry members and the loopholes in the complicated Defense Production Act have blocked reestablishment of a board.

Feasibility of the board to function has created probably the worst logjam in American history in labor-management wage negotiations. Long critical, the situation was aggravated by the refusal of the army to pay a 6-cent an hour cost-of-living wage increase to 1,000,000 nonoperating railroad workers under a contract signed at the White House and praised by Mr. Truman.

The President indicated that he prefers a tripartite wage stabilization board.

Mr. Truman told his advisory board he needed the cooperation of every segment of the American economy to fight—aggression, inflation and relaxation. He reviewed the militant situation in Korea for board members, using chart and pointer.

Mr. Truman created the advisory board to guide him on mobilization policies. He gave labor equal voice with management and big business public representatives. United Labor said the move was the first step toward resolving the differences between labor and the mobilization agencies.

But Mr. Wilson conceded under committee questioning that public reaction alone would not block price increases.

United Labor charged that the price stabilization portion of Mr. Wilson's organization is not controlled prices but legalized robbery.

Washington.—United Labor's proposals for a fair defense mobilization program were laid before President Truman and his new National Advisory Board on Defense Mobilization at the board's first meeting.

The program was drafted in behalf of all the people of the country. It would impose strict dollar-and-cents ceiling price controls, tight rent curbs, and provide a tax plan to skim the huge profits of corporations while favoring the low-income wage earner.

United Labor's proposals would establish a fair catch-up wage stabilization formula administered by a board authorized to deal with disputes brought to it by the parties or certified by the President.

These and the other planks in labor's platform for the people were outlined by AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, CIO President Philip Murray and Vice President Walter Reuther to Mr. Truman, Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson, and other members of the advisory board.

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Green-Meany Hail Atlantic Treaty

Washington.—APL President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany hailed the second anniversary of the North Atlantic treaty. "We rejoice that free people took this needed action against the United threat of aggressive communism," Mr. Green said.

"The cooperation under the treaty is more than a readiness to pool military strength. The treaty signifies the strengthening of free institutions and of economic cooperation. Our 8 million members will do their full measure to gain these objectives."

Mr. Meany noted that the treaty is being translated "from vague blueprints into powerful machinery."

"This progress has been speeded by the wholehearted effort of the free workers and the free industrialists of our nation and our allies. The AFL, together with the other great unions associated in the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, will work to win the full fruits of real peace for liberty-loving men and women everywhere."

Their statements were broadcast by Voice of America abroad.

ECA Honors Labor For Its Support

Washington.—Recognition of the work done by labor organizations in demonstrating the American way of life to trade unionists and employers from Europe was the focus of the Marshall Plan Certificates of Cooperation presented to representatives of 765 labor organizations.

Industrial firms were similarly thanked for their service in the program of technical aid to Europe which the Economic Cooperation Administration initiated shortly after the over-all program began on April 3, 1948, 3 years ago. Labor and industry groups joined in a special ceremony in Washington, when certificates were presented to the American Federation of Labor, Congress of Industrial Organizations, International Association of Machinists, United Mine Workers, Railway Labor Executives Association, Business and Industry Council of the Department of Commerce, Committee for Economic Development, National Association of Manufacturers, National Industrial Council, National Foreign Trade Council, United States Chamber of Commerce and the U. S. section of the Anglo-American Council of Productivity.

In nearly 600 communities across the nation, certificates were presented by Administrator William C. Foster were awarded by labor and other community leaders to labor and other groups.

VIVE LA FRANCE!—Washington.—L. to r., French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman, author of the Schuman coal-steel plan for western Europe approved by the AFL; Henri Bonnet, French ambassador to the U. S.; and President Vincent Auriol of France leaving the White House after President Auriol had asked to President Truman at end of state visit during which he stressed that France must not fall to the Russians and will fight to the death to avoid that fate.

FOR RELEASE IN EDITIONS NEAREST MAY 1, 1951.

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS MAY DAY PROCLAMATION, 1951

Today the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions sends fraternal greetings to its 53 million members in 60 different countries, and once more brings to the working people of all lands its May Day message of international solidarity in pursuit of peace, freedom and social justice.

The International Confederation is no mere propaganda agency. In Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas our regional organizations—already established or in process of formation—are working ceaselessly to translate our economic and social demands into action, backed up by the whole weight of our powerful world-wide movement. "Each for all, and all for each"—that time-honored trade union principle is now being applied on a really international scale.

Workers of all lands, workers in field and factory, in mine and office, in trade and transport! Join us in our mighty movement to abolish poverty and hunger, ignorance and disease, privilege and exploitation.

PEACE — FREEDOM — SOCIAL JUSTICE

These are our goals. Yet astir the road that leads to each stands the ugly spectre of war.

Trade unionists of the world! You have the power to maintain peace and to defeat the aggressors. Stand forth with the United Nations. Away with the shameless fraud of the Stockholm Appeal and other Cominform maneuvers which seek to paralyze the defensive will of the democracies in face of the aggressive plans of Soviet imperialism.

Back up our demands for the early conclusion of peace treaties with Austria, Germany and Japan; for the immediate release of all prisoners of war still detained by Soviet Russia and the satellites in defiance of written pledges and elementary human rights.

We declare, however, that peace will never finally be secure until the peoples condemned to silence in the dictatorship countries regain control over their own destinies.

Workers of all lands! Support us in our fight for democracy and the right of self-determination for all the peoples of the world. In that fight we will join hands with all men of good will seeking the same ends.

Workers of the totalitarian states! We have not forgotten you, nor those millions of our comrades imprisoned in the slave labor camps of Stalin, Franco and other dictators. We shall never relax our efforts until concentration camps are abolished once and for all from the face of the earth.

The dictators have not only trampled freedom underfoot in their own countries, but through fifth-column activities, armed terrorism and civil war have brought it into jeopardy everywhere.

Workers of the industrially-advanced democratic countries! Thanks to your free trade unions, you enjoy a degree of well-being undreamed of in the dictatorship lands. Nevertheless, we aim at an ever-rising standard of living for all workers; for their right to a full say in the shaping of economic and social policy; for the pooling of the productive forces of the world in the extension of material and technical assistance to the underdeveloped areas. As an urgent measure we demand prompt and generous international aid to stave off disaster in famine-stricken regions.

These are our plans for a better future for all. Yet all our hopes—aye, and many of our achievements too—are imperiled by the ever-present danger of war. To safeguard the democratic way of life the free peoples are now compelled to devote more and more of their resources to defense. We demand a fair sharing of these new and grave burdens; we insist on the rational planning and controls needed to avert inflation. But responsibility for any unavoidable lowering of living standards place squarely where it belongs: at the door of the Soviet dictators, who alone menace the peace of the world.

Workers of the free and democratic world! Your peace, your freedom, your hopes for a fuller and better life are all at stake. By smashing the dictators' foothold in the democratic countries let us make a start on eradicating this evil from the world. We have the power to do it. And do it we shall!

Today we are 53 million strong. Let us raise that figure to 100 million. One hundred million free people, united and dedicated to the winning and upholding of PEACE, FREEDOM and SOCIAL JUSTICE everywhere: that is a moral and material force which no dictator could withstand.

Workers of the world! Join us in this noble task.

Long live the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions! Brussels, Belgium, March 29, 1951.

ECA HONORS AFL FOR SUPPORT.—Washington.—Economic Cooperation Administrator William C. Foster (left) presents to AFL International Representative George P. Delaney a certificate in recognition of AFL support for success of the Marshall Plan in helping to rehabilitate Europe.

Irving Brown Recalls Berlin May Day, 1950

By IRVING BROWN

AFL Representative International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Berlin.—On May 1, 1950, the city of Berlin, a little island set in the Soviet zone of occupation, became the setting for a demonstration against tyranny and dictatorship which will go down as a red letter day in the history of the fight for human freedom.

More than 600,000 Berliners came to the Platz der Republik to defy Joseph Stalin in his own backyard—the Soviet zone of Germany. I stood on the tribune and looked out at what took on the appearance of a sea of white caps. As far as the eye could see there were people everywhere—a closely-packed mass of humanity standing shoulder to shoulder.

On my right looked up the Soviet monument dedicated to the victorious Red Army. At the back of the crowd, about a quarter of a mile from the tribune, there stood the old, destroyed ruins of the Reichstag.

Just over and beyond, not to be seen, but within short walking distance of about 500 yards, were the Russians and their militarized forced labor May Day demonstration in the eastern sector of Berlin. Armed policemen were predominant in their marching columns.

This dramatic May Day demonstra-

tion in West Berlin was a mortal blow to Soviet aims in Germany. 600,000 people had defied the Soviet Union.

Millions of Germans in the Russian zone could hear the voice of freedom which came over the Berlin radio, reaching out into the last corners of the eastern zone of Germany right up to the borders of Poland. Only a thin line divided East and West on this great day.

The people of Berlin said "no" to Stalin, and the 17 million people living under Soviet domination in Germany could take courage from the demonstration and the words that went over the microphone from the tribune on which I was standing along with Mayor Bente and the Mayor of the Christian Democratic Union, representative of the Bonn government.

It was 10:30 on the morning of May 1, under a beautiful and cloudless blue sky with the sun shining down on a demonstration which is unequalled in the history of the free world.

I started to speak in German. I spoke slowly, making sure to emphasize and pronounce properly each German word, fearing that my very infirmity would go down the chute. I stood, I kept thinking to myself as I mounted the rostrum that if I am greeted with silence, if the people of Berlin don't respond to what I say, then I will be speaking in a vacuum. But it didn't take long to set my doubts at rest.

Before I could finish the first sentence the huge assembly roared their approval to these words: "On this May Day 1950 I bring to you, the courageous and free men and women of Berlin, the greetings and expressions of highest admiration of the 50,000,000 free workers organized in the powerful International Confederation of Free Trade Unions."

The roar sounded like thousands of tons of TNT going down the chute. These roars of approval never stopped as the Berliners broke in with applause after every sentence. The crescendo was reached when at the end of my speech I held out the hope of all free men:

"There are millions of our brothers who cannot hear their own voice today. It is also in their names—in the names of the millions of men and the lands beyond the iron curtain—that I have spoken to you. And on this day you—can be sure of it—we will all be celebrating together a May Day both in East and West on this holiday of freedom."

And when I concluded finally with the cry of "Long live the future day of the free people," the vast multitude thundered of approval and the demonstration of the deep feelings of the masses remains as a vivid memory, which I can still hear and see.

The Berlin May Day demonstration, there in the heart of what means the free Soviet empire, means that the free people are valiant and hoping against hope that the western world of democracy will take on the ideological offensive. They long for the day when the concept of freedom will be put on the defensive.

BRITISH WORKUP WEEK

London.—British workers now work an average of a little under 46 hours a week.

URGE FREE TRADE UNIONS.—Washington.—International Development Advisory Board recommended to President Truman a worldwide plan of economic aid for underdeveloped areas and, specifically, that the program should continue to support free labor unions in these areas. L. to r., Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., chairman Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., Mrs. O. B. Brown, chairwoman of the National Labor Relations Board, and Representative Lewis G. Hines, all members of the President's board.



Labor Accepts Truman Bid To Serve on Advisory Board

Green Urges AFL Members To Donate to the Red Cross

First Step Is Taken to Meet Union Demands On Mobilization

ALL LABOR BATTLES HIGH PRICES.—Washington.—Leaders of the three other national labor organizations joined with the AFL in United Labor Policy Committee statement declaring of principles to fight high prices, unfair wage freeze, unequal taxes and discrimination against America's working people in the Office of Defense Mobilization. L. to R. President J. H. Hayes of the International Association of Machinists, CIO President Philip Murray and Railway Labor Executives President George E. Leighty.

Green Tells Senator Housing Bill Fails To Meet U. S. Needs

Washington.—AFL President William Green told Sen. Burnet Maybank of the Senate Banking Committee that the new Defense Housing Bill (S. 349) just reported by the committee fails to meet the needs of the nation's defense workers.

"We must provide decent housing and community facilities for thousands of workers and their families in defense areas," Mr. Green wrote. These houses must be provided at rents that these workers can afford to pay.

"The bill which your committee has reported, out fails to meet these objectives."

Mr. Green said that workers cannot afford to pay the \$55 to \$110 per month rents permitted under the act. He said the \$60,000 provided by the bill for government-financed defense housing projects would permit construction of only 5,000 units.

"Provision of only 5,000 units for

the whole of the United States to meet the critical needs of defense workers who cannot afford the high rents otherwise provided by this bill cannot be regarded as a serious demonstration by the Congress of its responsibilities toward meeting defense mobilization needs," he said. "It seems incredible that the Congress would attempt authorizing such a pitifully small amount for this vital program."

Potters to Make China at AFL Show

Chicago.—The AFL National Brotherhood of Operative Potters will demonstrate the potter's wheel method of making chinaware at the AFL Union Industries Show May 18-26.

The union will occupy 21 booths in the Midway Field exhibit space during the 9-day show.

Before the greens of dishwashing, crudely play will be turned into beautiful hand-painted dinner ware.

MINE OUTPUT RISES

London.—Recent weeks the average output of the British miners has risen to the highest ever recorded.

Washington.—With the Red Cross drive for funds still short of its national goal and failing to reach quotas in many localities, AFL President William Green sent an urgent letter to officers of Central Labor Union asking full support for the campaign. He wrote:

"The success of the present American Red Cross Drive for funds is

essential to the welfare of our boys in the armed forces.

"The Red Cross service to our fighting men have rapidly expanded during the past few months. The original drive for \$60 million was based on a military estimate of 2,500,000 men in the armed forces. The present authorized total for our armed forces is \$500,000 and this figure may go still further upwards.

"May I urgently request that you bring these facts to the attention of the general membership of the American Federation of Labor in your locality and urge that individual volunteer donations be made by all those who have not as yet made a contribution.

"I believe that the American Red Cross and, in the final analysis, the fighting men who are the beneficiaries of the services of the Red Cross deserve the full support of the American Federation of Labor."

Food Prices Rise 15 Per Cent in Year

Washington.—The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that retail food prices on March 15 were 15 per cent above a year ago and 11 per cent above the pre-Korean June 1950 prices.

Yet industry and public members of the Wage Stabilization Board from wage increases to 10 percent above the 1950 level. Food prices purchased make up the largest expenditures in the wage-earner's budget.

AFL said retail food prices remained unchanged between Feb. 26 and March 15, according to a special survey provided. This second successive two-week survey showed a sharp decline in some fresh fruits and vegetables.

Ernst Asks What's 10 Per Cent On 40c Hourly Wage?

Washington.—Of what good is a 10 per cent cost of living adjustment to a service worker now getting a 40-cent rate?

Mr. Ernst, president AFL, asked the question at a meeting of AFL unions in trade and service industries called to protest against unfair wage stabilization orders.

"Workers in our industries are being asked to accept wage stabilization in the face of the inflation and developments since the beginning of wage stabilization," Mr. Ernst said to the meeting.

Unions represented were his own, the Marine Corps, Barbers, Hairdressers, Service Employees, Laundry Workers, Firemen and Oilers, Operating Engineers, Truck Clerks, States, Counties and Municipal Workers.

Mr. Ernst said 15 million workers are employed in trade and service industries, one-third of total employment in industry outside of agriculture.

"Whereas under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act a 75-cent minimum in effect, in service and trade workers are dependent on state legal minimums as low as 40, 50 and 60 cents an hour, and in some states no legal minimums exist at all," Mr. Ernst said.

"Of what good is a 10 per cent cost-of-living adjustment to a trade or service worker now getting a 40-cent rate? Such an adjustment does not even begin to correct for substandard. Obviously the Wage Board must set some figure as the dividing line between what is, and is not, substantial, perhaps \$1 an hour, up to which wage increases should be legal without prior board approval and without reference to other stabilizing formulas."

"No flat percentage adjustment is enough to cope with the wage problem in our industries. Services of trade workers have fallen behind other workers so far as their wage levels and living standards are concerned."

"Taken as a whole, the wage stabilization formula is plainly discriminatory against the 15,000,000 workers in trade and service industries."

"Frozen between rising living costs and substandard wages in our industries, workers will look actively for employment elsewhere."

"If the government and employers want to raise wages and grant other economic inducements to their workers, let the character of the stabilization program be such that they will be able to do so without penalizing people. Unable to hold their workers, and to get replacement because of the standard wages, many of our employees face bankruptcy."

"The wage stabilization program discriminates against small business and against the big business that is made up of relatively small employees and enterprises that are driven from these employers to the corporation giants in basic industry."

MISS BRACKET NAME
Washington, D. C. Margaret F. Brackett, executive librarian of the U. S. Labor Department, Mrs. William W. S. Secretary of the College, Boston, Mass., succeeds Miss Helen M. Steele.

Washington.—The United Labor Policy Committee accepted President Truman's personal invitation to participate equally with business, agriculture and public numbers on his top-level National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy.

The spokesman for 15 million organized workers accepted at a conference with Mr. Truman at the White House.

The board will meet at least once a month with Mr. Truman and it is expected that he will follow board recommendations.

Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson was named as chairman. The labor members are AFL President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, CIO President Philip Murray and Vice President Walter Reuther.

Mr. Green said in a statement for the committee that:

"We understand the board is to serve in an advisory capacity to the President. We are hopeful that this will be the first step toward resolving the differences between labor and the mobilization agencies."

Still unsettled are workers' grievances over the wage stabilization board, high prices, civilian manpower and other problems.

"The United Labor Policy Committee has agreed unanimously to serve on the President's National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy. We are hopeful that this will be the first step toward resolving the differences between labor and the mobilization agencies."

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Wilson's NPA Gave Big Business Tax Credits Unchecked

Washington.—Government production officials admitted they gave steel concerns almost half a billion dollars in tax concessions without checking the facts in the case—a revelation that drew charges of "stupidity" from congressional investigators.

A National Production Authority official admitted to authority executive told a House subcommittee that one tax grant was made even though statements on the concern's application were later found to be false.

He acknowledged that 48 applications for tax concessions were approved in December with no information other than the fact that the companies concerned on their applications.

"The fact that the tax grants on 'good faith' because he believed there was a 'reasonable' basis for the grants for expanding production would be carried out. Authority officials said that the tax grants were largely for expanding production would be carried out."

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Rail Unions Report Big Gains

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—Rail wages increased more than \$1 an hour, and work week with pay, and a 40-hour week were established as standards for the past 13 years in the nation's railroads by the AFL Railway Employees Department.

Reports on the gains were submitted to the department's convention. Two AFL vice presidents told opening sessions that the need for unity of organized labor is more pressing now than ever before.

More than 400 delegates representing the 7 affiliated shopcraft unions heard the remarks of Dan W. Tracy, president of the Electrical Workers, and Charles J. McGowan, head of the Boilermakers.

"The division of labor has enabled our opponents to smash the movement intended to destroy the trade union movement," said Mr. McGowan. "It has thrown our national administration into a chaotic condition in which the needs of entrenched monopoly are today writing the ticket for the entire American people."

"The watchword for labor should be freedom, movement, one policy, one doctrine."

Mr. Tracy said: "We have been battling for 3 months with the mobilization director, with many other agencies of government to preserve our position and our identity in this country. If we continue united we shall have ultimate success."

"We are not fighting our government. We are fighting for the preservation of the rights of labor to have freedom of collective bargaining and to have its place in the mobilization program."

In a report on activities since the last convention in 1938, the executive committee and officers of the department detailed national movements which have resulted in "the greatest progress in our history."

The railroad unions successfully resisted a wage reduction movement in 1938, and successfully improved wages and working conditions in the railroad movements of 1941, 1942, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948-49 and 1950. The 1951 movement for a union scale is now in progress following successful amend-

ment of the Railway Labor Act to permit negotiation of such agreements.

Since the 1938 convention, average straight-time hourly earnings of employees in all seven of the shop crafts and in the railroad industry as a whole have risen 15 per cent. The Mechanicals' rates, for example, are up from 35 cents to \$1.53, a raise of more than \$1. The minimum rate in the whole railroad shop industry is now \$1.28.

During the last 13 years the 2-week paid vacation, the 40-hour work week also have become standard, allowing more time for leisure and recreation.

Michael Fox, acting president of the department, presided at the convention and signed the report. Other signers were Mr. McGowan; A. J. Hayes, president, Machinists; John Pekofer, president, Blacksmiths; J. M. Burns, vice president, Sheet Metal Workers; J. J. Duffy, vice president, Electrical Workers; Irvin Barry, president, Carmen, and George Wright, vice president, Firemen and Oilers.

Union Label Week Set For Sept. 2-8

Washington.—Union Label Week is set for Sept. 2-8, 1951.

The post office official authorized by the American Federation of Labor and sponsored by the Union Label Trade Department is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 2, and runs through Sept. 8. The general purpose of the declared period is to create better public relations and promote the use of the union label in the AFL.

The Union Label Week gives an excellent opportunity for promotional activities for union label goods and union service organizations.

Notices have been issued by the AFL and all branches of the American Federation of Labor, Union Label Week and the belief that it will be in the best interest of the membership of both unions to go ahead with the merger. It has been "in the work" more than 20 years. The organization of the American Federation of Labor has been in consolidation has been in way only in recent years.

Blacksmiths to Vote On Plan to Merge With Boilermakers

(Special Correspondence)

Chicago.—A merger of the Blacksmiths and Boilermakers unions, 2 of the oldest and strongest in the American Federation of Labor, is under negotiation.

The International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers will convene April 30 here to consider a tentative merger agreement already approved by the union's executive council.

The tentative agreement has been approved also by the executive council of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America. The Boilermakers do not convene until May 1951 unless a special convention could be called. But their executive council has authority to act between conventions.

If the agreement should be ratified at the Blacksmiths' convention, the merger will be consummated at a May 1951 convention of both unions.

J. Pekofer, general president of the Blacksmiths, and Arthur P. Smith, vice president of the Boilermakers, said the merger, if consummated, would create a new union, 200,000 strong, with a total membership of more than 300,000.

Both unions are more than 60 years old. The Boilermakers were chartered in 1880. Although both unions are now organized in all types of industries, each trade would maintain its own identity under the proposed merger agreement, Mr. Smith said.

Pekofer and Smith were interviewed by the Chicago Tribune. They said the merger would be in the best interest of the membership of both unions to go ahead with the merger. It has been "in the work" more than 20 years. The organization of the American Federation of Labor has been in consolidation has been in way only in recent years.

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Help preserve the peace—by U. S. Savings bonds.

Safeway Stores Try To Wreck Union; Rapped by Green

Washington.—Safeway Stores in this area is attempting to wreck the AFL union representing its store managers in the District of Columbia, Virginia and Maryland area.

The area unit of the big nationwide chain has withdrawn recognition from the Retail Clerks Protective Association on the grounds that the company is not required to bargain with store managers under the Taft-Hartley Act since, the company claims, these employees are supervisors.

AFL President William Green criticized the corporation. He reminded the stores that a large proportion of their customers are working men. He said:

"I am shocked to learn that the management of Safeway Stores, operating 150 food stores in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, is attempting to disrupt long-standing, friendly and cooperative relations with union labor.

"These stores have served notice that they choose to take advantage of a provision of the Taft-Hartley Act under which, they assert, they are not required to bargain collectively with store managers.

"The store managers, through organization into a local union of their own, which is affiliated with the Retail Clerks International Union of the American Federation of Labor, have achieved a decent standard of living and maintained peaceful and cooperative relations with the firm over the past 14 years.

"Instead of being guided by the spirit of good faith and cooperation with trusted employees, the Safeway management appears to prefer to break the union and to exploit its own selfish advantages it may be able to reap from the one-sided provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act.

"This is a clear example of how the Taft-Hartley Act, as labor warden, serves to induce the cause of cooperative labor-management relations.

"The Safeway management should bear in mind that a large proportion of its customers are workmen's families who are bound to resent a short-sighted policy which can only undermine the chain's labor relations and public relations."

TOBIN HAILS PACT

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin hailed the 5-year industrial peace pact in New York port trucking as a contribution to expanding production and the defense effort.

The contract was signed by Teamsters Union Local 807 and 707, and the Motor Carrier Association of New York.

"It is significant and important that this agreement was established through free collective bargaining, without governmental supervision, in an effort to settle with mutual understanding the use of reason and intelligence; it will avert the delays and wastage which result when management and labor have to resort to strikes, lockouts and lawsuits," Secretary Tobin said.

LABOR EDITORS TO MEET

Washington.—The Eastern Labor Press Conference will convene here on April 9 and 10. It is composed of editors of AFL and independent union newspapers and journals.

TUNISIANS JOIN

Brussels, Belgium.—The Union Generale des Travailleurs de Tunisie (General Union of Tunisian Workers) has voted to join the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

GREETS LATIN-AMERICAN MINISTERS

Washington.—Secretary of State Dean Acheson chats with Dr. Nestor Ponce (left), minister of foreign affairs of Ecuador, and Manuel Tello (right), acting minister of foreign affairs of Mexico, during American Foreign Ministers Conference just concluded. International Confederation of Free Trade Unions asked for recognition of free democratic trade unions, respect for individual civil rights, and economic development to raise standard of living in all the Americas.

Some Gains Made For Latin Workers

Washington.—Some gains were made for workers in the Americas during the first conference of the foreign ministers of the 21 American republics.

Serafino Romualdi, AFL Latin American representative and secretary of the Inter-American Regional Organization of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, is preparing an analysis of the achievements of the conference.

The foreign ministers advanced a program of cooperation for inter-American military cooperation, strengthening of internal security of the individual nations in the hemisphere and economic development.

"There is now more than ever need for the adoption of measures designed to improve the living conditions of the peoples of this hemisphere," the conference said.

T-H Money-Wasting Vote Set in Chicago

Chicago.—The Chicago regional office of the National Labor Relations Board is preparing to conduct a record-breaking union shop election among carpenters employed in wood-working shops throughout Cook County under the Taft-Hartley law.

Michael J. Sexton, president of the Chicago District Council, commented: "The contracts between the Brotherhood of Carpenters and the employers in the woodworking industry were in existence before the members of the Labor Board were born. All of these carpenters have been members of the union all their lives. It seems shameful waste of taxpayers' money to conduct an election in which it is foregone conclusion that every carpenter will vote to maintain his membership in the union, as he has done for a lifetime. Unfortunately, however, the Taft-Hartley law requires it."

The construction carpenters employed in the building operations throughout Cook County are not involved in the forthcoming referendum. The NLRB recently decided that Congress intended that the election should pool millions of dollars of taxpayers' money down the drain finding out if union members want to remain union members. The decision has "yes" in it 97 percent of the elections in 3 years.

MALAYAN UNIONS RISE Singapore.—There are now 171 trade union in Malaya and the result of active fostering by the British authorities.

New Mexico Legislature Approves Other Southwestern States in 1951

Sante Fe, N. M.—The 20th session of the New Mexico State Legislature has approved the Workmen's Compensation bill.

It passed other measures favorable to all the people which were introduced by the New Mexico State Federation of Labor.

"We feel that the 20th session of the New Mexico State Legislature was favorable to the working people of the state," W. S. Roberts, state AFL secretary-treasurer, reported to AFL affiliates.

"No anti-legislation particularly aimed at the working people of the state was passed in either house. We

owe a vote of thanks to the legislature. It is one of our neighboring states, Texas, Arizona, Nevada and California, which has the best laws for the interests of workers has been introduced, and in some instances, passed."

Nevada passed a "right to work" bill. Mr. Roberts noted that the bill on the statutes and legislation was introduced to reduce workmen's compensation.

The Texas state senate has ordered a special Senate committee "to commence forthwith and diligently continue a sweeping investigation of all labor organizations in this state for the purpose of determining law violations, if any, and the administration of all state laws as they may affect labor."

In California many strongly opposed anti-labor measures were introduced obviously designed to check the advance of trade unionism.

"Seeing these movements in other states," Mr. Roberts commented, "let's all start planning now for the next legislative session so that the legislature to protect our position and gain work through years of hard efforts by members of organized labor."

Amendments to the state compensation law raises minimum payments to \$17 and maximum to \$20 per week and liberalizes other provisions. The benefits under the new law will be paid in case of death or disability. The new law was raised to the same weekly limits as the workmen's compensation law.

Appropriations for the state labor commissioner were increased but the governor vetoed bills to reorganize the office and transfer enforcement of the child labor laws from welfare department to labor commissioner.

Get 20 Cents More Out of Each Dollar

New York.—It is possible for the working man to gain another 20 cents out of each dollar he earns, says Sidney Margolis in his new book, "The Consumer's Guide to Better Buying."

One of Mr. Margolis' basic rules is specially easy for union members to observe; it is Pool Your Buying. He tells how several New England towns of the International Association of Machinists bought up surplus clothing, shoes and dresses for \$5 that had been \$8-15, and the St. Louis Meat Cutters Union got autos for its members at 25 percent off the retail price purchasing arrangement with dealers.

Paul Harding, which shows how workers' families can stretch their dollars under present-day conditions. Union members will find the book on the Signet rack at newsstands, 25 cents. They are "Managing Your Income" and "Genuine Planning vs. Penny Hoarding" which show how workers' families can stretch their dollars under present-day conditions. Union members will find the book on the Signet rack at newsstands, 25 cents. They are "Managing Your Income" and "Genuine Planning vs. Penny Hoarding" which show how workers' families can stretch their dollars under present-day conditions. Union members will find the book on the Signet rack at newsstands, 25 cents. They are "Managing Your Income" and "Genuine Planning vs. Penny Hoarding" which show how workers' families can stretch their dollars under present-day conditions.

Moving United Nations 100 Percent Union Job

New York.—The Union Label Trades News of New York reports: To the general public, the announcement that the United Nations is moving into its new headquarters in Manhattan didn't seem dramatic.

To Albert W. Wapansa, secretary-treasurer of Local 814 of the Teamsters Union, and to its other officers, it was a highly skilled operation. They had to move everything from paper clips to heavy equipment from one place to another with a minimum of fuss or confusion.

Some 3,000 persons and their equipment began to be transferred some six months ago by the Weisberger Moving and Storage Co., and their union workers. Under the able direction of member Otto Neuschütz, every little detail was taken care of by the army of men.

While crews were loading and unloading some 400 vans of equipment and supplies in the period, the United Nations was kept on continue functioning—as it had to. It did not matter that the 38-story building was still under construction, the ultimate location of every item had been planned well enough to be put into its proper place.

The last mass operation by this local's members was to move the Mutual Life Insurance Co. into its new quarters in midtown Broadway. Besides office equipment, the boys handled more than \$2 billion in securities—and a nutty a stock coupon was misplaced. The job was done so quickly and neatly, that after a week-end of working with full staffs at the new location on Monday. This—after moving the securities, furniture and over 250,000 pieces of paper. Members of other locals, besides 814, were also on the job.

Small Business Gets Noticed by Wilson

Washington.—A congressional "watchdog" committee presided by Sen. Charles McNary, D-Ore., and Charles E. Wilson as the effort defense production agencies were making to see that small business men get an equitable share of the defense orders distributed.

So reported the New York Times. Mr. Wilson said every effort was being made by his office in that direction.

Later in the day the National Production Authority, one of the defense agencies that come under Mr. Wilson's jurisdiction, announced that it had instructed all of its bureaus and offices to take "special measures" to insure that small companies get a share of government business.

Many Fleischmann, head of the defense office, issued the orders with the explanation that small business men would weaken the country's defense program.

"Larger concerns, with established supply relationships and greater purchasing power, tend to get more business—a pre-arranged share of the diminishing supply of materials," he said.

"Larger concerns, with established supply relationships and greater purchasing power, tend to get more business—a pre-arranged share of the diminishing supply of materials," he said.

He directed officers in the field to give small firms help in getting plant and equipment, and in the handling of loan applications and special attention in the handling of requests for tax benefits, in addition to aid in getting a share of defense orders.

The United Labor Policy Committee charged last February that small business was being almost completely ignored in the awarding of defense contracts. The small business men apparently told Congress the same thing in view of its intense questioning of Mr. Wilson.

PASS HOUSING

Washington.—The Senate passed by voice vote the House April 10, 1951, which falls far short of American Federation of Labor proposals.

The law provides only \$50 million for federal construction of rental housing, which is only one-tenth of what William Green called "pitifully small" for the entire United States engaged in a gigantic defense mobilization program.

Cement Workers Say Hear Edwards Today

Frank Edwards of radio fame is on the air in Labor's name. For the truth behind the news, Dial Mutual and hear his views!

This little verse in green ink is carried on the official envelopes of the AFL-United Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers International Union.

It's a good way to help build the listening audience for Frank Edwards, Mutual Broadcasting System's commentator sponsored by the AFL on a nationwide network every night at 10 p.m. EST.

Hold on to your U. S. Savings bonds—buy more.



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SAMUEL GOMPERS
Founder and First President
American Federation of Labor

HEAD RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.—Chicago.—AFL Railway Employees Department re-elected E. W. Warner (left), secretary-treasurer, and J. P. Foran, president, at 1951 convention. Mr. Foran, a member of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, has been acting president since retirement of Fred N. Allen. Mr. Warner was general chairman of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen on the Rio Grande Western and 16 other roads.